



Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Decision

Matter of: Ellicott Engineering Inc.

File: B-261649

Date: June 13, 1995

DECISION

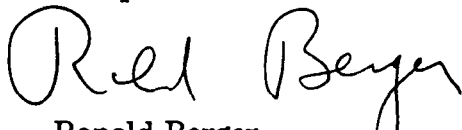
Ellicott Engineering Inc. protests the rejection of its bid as nonresponsive under Department of the Army solicitation No. DACW69-95-B-0020, for failure to sign the required Certificate of Procurement Integrity.

We dismiss the protest.

The Certificate of Procurement Integrity is a material part of the bid because it imposes substantial legal duties on the bidder. See Fire Eng'g Co., Inc., B-245525, Sept. 24, 1991, 91-2 CPD ¶ 280. Therefore, a bid that does not contain a properly executed Certificate must be rejected as nonresponsive. Ellicott asserts that the typed name should be adequate to make its bid responsive here, since it signed its bid and the corporate certificate.

Ellicott's bid properly was rejected as nonresponsive. Our Office has previously addressed and rejected Ellicott's argument. First, the fact that the bid included other signatures does not suffice. A bidder may not rely on another signature in the bid to establish its commitment to the provisions of the Certificate. See G. Penza & Sons, Inc., B-249321, Sept. 2, 1992, 92-2 CPD ¶ 147; Ed A. Wilson, Inc., B-244634, July 12, 1991, 91-2 CPD ¶ 53. The Certificate provides spaces for both the signature and a typed name identifying the individual responsible for signing the Certificate. We have held that a typed name by itself is not sufficient to bind bidders to the terms of the Certificate. See Bootz Distribution, B-251155, Feb. 10, 1993, 93-1 CPD ¶ 123; G. Penza & Sons, Inc., *supra*. Neither is a hand-printed name (when it appears that it was not intended as a signature), see G. Penza & Sons, Inc., *supra*, a rubber-stamped signature (since anyone who has access to the stamp could affix it), C.B.C. Enters., Inc., 72 Comp. Gen. 275 (1993), 93-1 CPD ¶ 495, or an individual's initials. Koehler GmbH, B-246012, Feb. 12, 1992, 92-1 CPD ¶ 180.

The protest is dismissed.


Ronald Berger
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